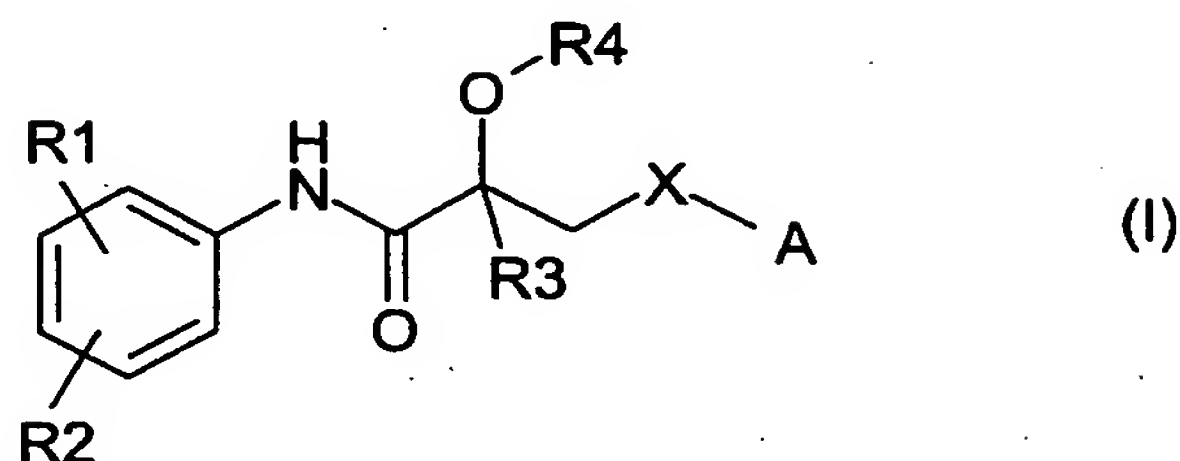


## Claims

## 1. Compounds of formula (I)



wherein

$R_1$  is  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, hydroxy $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl or  $-(CH_2)_n-CHO$ , wherein  $n$  is 0-6;

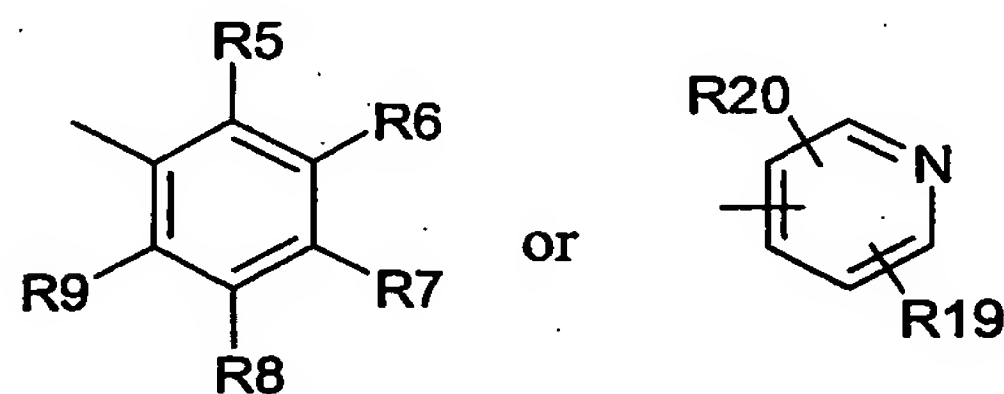
$R_2$  is nitro, cyano or halogen;

10  $R_3$  is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl or halo $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl;

$R_4$  is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl,  $COR_{10}$  or  $SO_2R_{13}$ ;

$X$  is O or NH;

$A$  is a group selected from:



wherein  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  are independently hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano,  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, halo $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, cyano $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, amino, mono- or di $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl-amino, amino $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, hydroxy $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl,  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkoxy $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl,  $-NHCOR_{10}$ ,  $-N(COR_{10})_2$ ,  $-COR_{11}$ ,  $-OR_{12}$ ,  $-OSO_2R_{13}$ ,  $-SO_2R_{14}$ ,  $-NHSO_2R_{13}$  or  $-SR_{15}$  or an imide ring; or  $R_5$  and  $R_6$ ,  $R_6$  and  $R_7$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , or  $R_8$  and  $R_9$  form, together with any of the ring atom(s) to which they are attached, a condensed 5 to 7 membered aliphatic or aromatic carbocyclic ring or a condensed 5 to 7 membered heterocyclic ring containing 1 to 3 heteroatom(s) selected from N, O and S;

25  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  are independently  $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_7)$ alkenyl, halo $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, amino $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl, mono- or di $(C_1-C_7)$ alkylamino $(C_1-C_7)$ alkyl,  $(C_6-C_{10})$ aryl,  $-N(R_{16})_2$  or  $-OR_{17}$ ;

R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>15</sub> are independently hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkenyl, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, amino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, mono- or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkylamino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl, -COR<sub>18</sub>;

R<sub>13</sub> and R<sub>14</sub> are independently (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkenyl, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl;

R<sub>16</sub> and R<sub>17</sub> are independently hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkenyl, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, amino(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl;

R<sub>18</sub> is (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkenyl, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>)aryl;

R<sub>19</sub> and R<sub>20</sub> are independently hydrogen, halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkenyl;

and wherein each aryl or ring residue defined above may be substituted; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen and R<sub>3</sub> is methyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein X is O.

4. A compound according to any of claim 1 to 3, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is methyl or hydroxymethyl and R<sub>2</sub> is nitro or cyano.

5. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkoxy, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl or -NHCOR<sub>10</sub>, wherein R<sub>10</sub> is (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, halo(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkyl, hydroxy or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)alkoxy.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein at least one of R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> is a halogen.

7. A compound according to claim 6, wherein at least two of R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are selected from a group consisting of halogen, cyano and acetamido.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. A method of hormonal therapy, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

10. A method for the treatment or prevention of androgen receptor dependent conditions, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

11. A method according to claim 9 or 10, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) orally.